

all classes into obedience under the Crown must be his. It was, if we except the ancient Byzantine Empire and the Moslem states of Spain, the first complete instance that Europe had shown, since the age of Charles the Great, of a monarchy essentially non-feudal or at least deriving its strength from non-feudal institutions, and confining feudalism within limits which made it a source of strength rather than of danger to the State. One must not, indeed, overlook the fact that the Anglo-Norman dynasty of England had in William the Conqueror set considerable bounds to feudalism, and in Henry 1. made the first step towards a real monarchy in bringing the central and local institutions into touch with one another, through justices despatched into the shires, and in creating an exchequer system. England and Sicily were not without influence upon one another. But in spite of much learned conjecture it is more reasonable to believe that England learned from Sicily rather than Sicily from England. Robert of Selby, the Chancellor of Roger, is the first of that Anglo-French immigration to Southern Italy which resulted in many prelates of English birth succeeding

to the sees of the Norman kingdom
and which
centred round Adrian IV, and John of
Salisbury;
it is as a man of middle age that the
kaid Thomas
Brown returns to England, to give his
experience
of Roger's chancery to the service of
Henry II.¹
The Norman origin of the Hauteville
dynasty, the

¹ See Appendix C.